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**PATENT**

application that would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, of U.S. Patent No. 5,601,990. The obviousness-type double patenting rejection has therefore been obviated, and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal thereof.

**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and an early Office Action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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